

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 127265
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 SSO-00 /011 R

DRAFTED BY AF/EX:EGKRYZA:DJW
APPROVED BY AF - WILLIAM E. SCHAUFLELE
AF/E - RPOST
AF/E - RILLING
DESIRED DISTRIBUTION
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-----022025Z 042420 /65
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 127265

STADIS////////////////////////////////////
FOR TIENKEN FROM ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHAUFLELE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: APER PFOR ET US

SUBJECT: USG PRESENCE IN ETHIOPIA

1. RECENT EVENTS MAKE ALL THE MORE URGENT THE NEED TO
HAVE YOUR PERCEPTION OF US MISSION ROLE IN ETHIOPIA.
SUGGEST YOU USE THE FORMAT THAT AF/EX KRYZA DISCUSSED
WITH YOU AND MALIN DURING HIS RECENT VISIT, I.E., THE
ZERO BASE BUDGET CONCEPT.

2. START FROM THE BOTTOM BY DEFINING WHAT INTERESTS WE
HAVE REMAINING IN ETHIOPIA AND HOW YOU SUGGEST WE
SUPPORT THEM IN TERMS OF PERSONNEL AT POST. FOR EXAMPLE,
IF YOU AGREE THAT CURRENT ENVIRONMENT PRECLUDES ANYTHING
MORE THAN A "LISTENING POST" WHAT IS THE MINIMUM STAFFING
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(AMERICAN AND LOCAL) REQUIRED TO PERFORM THAT FUNCTION.
IDENTIFY EACH POSITION BY DESCRIPTIVE JOB TITLE.

3. NEXT, WHAT KIND AND SIZE OF AID PROGRAM CAN WE
FEASIBLY EXPECT TO CARRY OUT GIVEN RESTRAINTS OF LOCAL
SECURITY AND UNRESPONSIVENESS OF EPMG? AS YOU KNOW
WE DO NOT WISH TO CLOSE OUT OUR AID PROGRAM BUT PREFER

THAT SUCH A STEP, IF IT IS TAKEN, BE TAKEN BY EPMG.
NOTWITHSTANDING, WE DO NOT WISH TO BE IN POSITION OF
PUSHING IN WASHINGTON FOR AN UNREALISTIC AID PROGRAM

FOR ETHIOPIA. IF IN YOUR VIEW THERE IS A VIABLE ROLE
FOR AID, WHAT STAFF (AMERICAN AND LOCAL) WOULD BE
REQUIRED TO PERFORM IT EFFECTIVELY?

4. FINALLY, WHAT FUNCTIONS OTHER THAN "LISTENING POST"
AND "ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE" DO YOU SEE AND WHAT ADDITIONAL
MINIMAL STAFFING IS REQUIRED?

5. FYI: THE GENERAL FEELING IN WASHINGTON IS THAT WE
SHOULD VOLUNTARILY DECREASE OUR STAFF IN ADDIS TO THE
BARE MINIMUM ASAP. A POPULAR INTERPRETATION OF "BARE
MINIMUM" IS THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE THAT CAN BE HOUSED
IN THE EMBASSY COMPOUND. THIS ASSUMES THAT THE REMAINING
MARINE GUARDS CAN LIVE IN THE AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE.

6. NEGATIVE PICTURE PAINTED IN RECENT CABLES SUGGESTS
WE SHOULD NOW GIVE SERIOUS CONSIDERATION TO DEPARTURE
OF DEPENDENTS. PLEASE GIVE US YOUR VIEWS. VANCE

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